

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 /084 W

----- 110875

R 190439Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 59

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 2401

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR MPOL NZ SN

SUBJ: FUTURE OF NZ ARMY BATTALION IN SINGAPORE

REF: WELLINGTON 2314

1. MOD ASST SECY FOR POLICY FARRELL (FORMER NZ AMBASSADOR SAIGON) TOLD ACTING DCM OF CABINET DECISION IN PRINCIPLE THAT NZ BATTALION IN SINGAPORE WILL "MOVE BACK IN NEXT TWO YEARS OR SO" AND THAT PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS DECISION WILL BE MADE AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER SIGNATORIES TO FPDA. HE SAID THIS INFORMATION HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED NZ EMBASSY WASHINGTON WITH REQUEST IT BE PASSED TO USG.

2. FARRELL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WILL BE PROBLEMS IN ACCOMMODATING BATTALION IN NZ, BUT STATED THESE WILL BE OVERCOME.

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3. FARRELL SAID HE WATED TO MAKE POINT THAT THE BATTALION'S

MOVE IS "NOT A NZ WITHDRAWAL" FROM SINGAPORE OR OTHER COUNTRIES OF SEA, BUT THAT ON CONTRARY NZ WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH THOSE COUNTRIES IN BOTH MILITARY AND NON-MILITARY SPHERES.

4. FARRELL ADDED THAT ALLEGATION IN "TRANS TASMAN" THAT MOD AND MFA WERE AT ODDS OVER DISPOSITION OF NZ BATTALION (REFTEL) WAS COMPLETELY WITHOUT FOUNDATION, AS EVIDENCED BY FACT CABINET'S DECISION WAS BASED ON JOINT MFA-MOD RECOMMENDATION. SELDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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